

Board Meeting  
July 9, 2020

The Gerry Town Board met at 6:30 PM, July 9, 2020, at the Gerry Town Hall for the regular monthly board meeting.

Present were: Richard C. Heath, Supervisor  
Gary J. Swan, Councilman  
Linda D. Bartholomew, Councilwoman  
Randy J. Zahm, Councilman  
Bruce Gustafson, Councilman  
Recia L. Myers, Town Clerk  
Brian T. Anderson, Highway Superintendent  
William Duncanson Jr., Town Attorney  
Eric Yager, Zoning Officer

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Supervisor Heath called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:**

Supervisor Heath introduced Zoning Officer, Eric Yager, to the Town Board and Town Attorney.

**COMMUNICATIONS:**

**OFFICERS REPORT:**

**Zoning Officer:**

Eric Yager, Zoning Officer commented he issued 14 permits for this month with a total of 27 permits this year. Fees for this month collected are \$1,035.00 and for year have been \$1,555.00. Had 4 new construction inspections and he noted most inspections are on hold due to pandemic right now.

**Dog Control Officer:**

Matt Abbey, Dog Control Officer, was absent and submitted the following report:

Received a call on 6-17-2020 from a town resident on Gerry-Ellington Road there was a dog that looked sickly walking up the road towards Ellington and I told her I could come out in an hour or so and see if still in area and hold it and I could come and get it.

6-17-20- Received a call from Nancy Root reporting her dog got out today and a call earlier fit the description during the day and to contact that caller.

**Highway Superintendent:**

Highway Superintendent, Brian Anderson, stated the CHIPS money should be coming in with a 20% cut. They have been skid paving Terry Road and will finish up paving soon. They also have been helping out local towns right now with projects. Supervisor Heath commented that Brian is using the 2019 CHIPS money to work on Terry Road along with patching in areas and he explained that the sales tax distribution has been increasing which is a good thing as well right now.

**ASSESSORS REPORT:**

The following report was submitted:

The final roll was filed with the County and State July 1, 2020 with the appropriate legal notice published in the post-journal. All Assessor reports required by the State have been filed and I have updated the computer to create a 2021 file to begin working on next year's assessment roll.

Councilwoman Bartholomew noted that she received a copy of the 2020 tax roll and will have it placed on the Town's website as it is required.

**COMMITTEES, BOARDS & AGENCIES:**

Park & Recreation Committee.

Supervisor Heath discussed opening the park now and Town Attorney, William Duncanson, Jr., noted that Village of Sinclairville and Town of Ellicott did not open due to liability and worried about their own employees catching the virus who would have to take care of the grounds. Supervisor Heath noted that he agrees as we do not have the personnel to disinfect the park nor the funding for it. Councilwoman Bartholomew commented that if the school does not know how to even handle this virus then we definitely should not open park. After discussion, the Town Board decided to keep it closed and will discuss on a month to month basis.

**SPECIAL ORDERS:**

Minute approval for June 2020 Board Meeting and the Supervisor's Monthly Report Hall were approved on a motion by Councilman Swan, seconded by Councilwoman Bartholomew. Approved.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

No old Business.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

Councilwoman Bartholomew commented that she received a letter from the Rodeo Senior Citizens President, John Sipos, requesting if the Town could help pay a deposit that they cannot obtain back for bus trips that have been cancelled due to the pandemic. The amount of the two deposits totaled \$350.00. Supervisor Heath asked if the other local towns are helping with that amount and he would like to know that as they discussed this with Mr. Sipos before. After discussion, Councilwoman Bartholomew will contact him and find out the details of everything and let the Town Board know next month.

**PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR:**

Councilwoman Bartholomew asked about the status of the streetlights and Supervisor Heath spoke with former Town Supervisor, John Crossley, and he noted that it would be a significant cost to the Town to upgrade the lights with more LED's. Discussion. Councilwoman Bartholomew commented that she is concerned very much as it is a safety hazard as you cannot see people walking on the sidewalks and with the high amount of traffic in the area she would not want to see an accident occur if someone were to get hit because they could not see. Councilwoman Bartholomew feels the Town should definitely look into upgrading even if they can do this little by little and the residents within the district pay taxes for the street lights. O. Dennis Bartholomew explained that the wattage is definitely different as he did comparisons and it should definitely be upgraded.

Supervisor Heath commented that he will look into to contacts and find out exactly how much it would cost and report back and the Town Board would have to vote on the decision.

**VOUCHER APPROVAL:**

Highway Fund Voucher's # 90 – 96 totaling \$36,115.14 was approved on a motion by Councilwoman Bartholomew, seconded by Councilman Zahm. Approved.

General Fund Voucher's #172 – 193 totaling \$5,224.37 was approved on a motion by Councilman Zahm, seconded by Councilman Gustafson. Approved.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

The next Board meeting will be held 6:30 PM, August 13, 2020 at the town hall.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The meeting adjourned at 7:30 PM on a motion by Councilman Swan, seconded by Councilwoman Bartholomew.

Minutes taken by,

Recia L. Myers,  
Town Clerk